ACQUISITION OF PADDY BY GOVERNMENT—PARTICULARS REGARDING

117. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

the basis on which the Supply Department acquires paddy from the cultivators and jenmies who possess paddy?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

The demand is fixed after making a provision for the minimum requirements of the cultivators for domestic consumption, seeds and other cultivation expenses which have to be given in kind.

118. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the village officers got Kychits from the cultivators before the harvest as to the amount of paddy which they would sell to Government;

(*b*) if so, under what authority they did so?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Under the directions of the Purchasing officers, with a view to facilitate the purchase of as much surplus paddy as possible without causing hardship to cultivators or land-holders.

119. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Kychits have not been taken by the village officers in the name of the Tahsildars of Taluks for and on behalf of the Government to measure out quantities of paddy;

(*b*) were these Kychits not taken long before actual harvest;

(*c*) under what provision of law were they authorised to take kychits;

(*d*) whether these rules or orders were duly published in the Gazette;

(*e*) whether Government do or do not propose to take action for default against Kychitdars who have defaulted the terms of the Kychit due to want of proper returns when harvested;

(*f*) who has been authorised to decide the question arising under (*e*)?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) Yes, in some cases.

(*b*) No. But Kychits have been taken (*i*) shortly before harvest and (*ii*) after harvest.

(*c*) under the Food Department Notification 60, dated 7th April 1943 and also under the Paddy Acquisition Order.

(*d*) Yes. See answer to (*c*).

(*e*) Careful watch is kept on the comparative success or failure of crop. Action will be taken in cases when returns given are found to be false and deliberateiy misleading.

(*f*) See Notification No. 38, dated 20th October 1943 (3rd Thulam 1119) of the Food Department.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* May I know, Sir, the gist of the Notification mentioned in answer to (*c*)?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I shall read the Notification.—

"In Exercise of the powers conferred upon them by rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules as made applicable to Cochin by Proclamation VIII 1115, and all powers thereunto enabling, Government are pleased to order that whoever is entitled to harvest the standing crops on any paddy land in the State, shall, at least seven days before he intends to harvest the crops, give information in writing to the Tahsildar of the Taluk within whose jurisdiction such lands are situate stating the date on which he proposes to harvest the crops and the survey numbers of such lands. He shall further comply with all directions that may be given by the Tahsildar or his deputies regarding the harvesting of the crops and the storage of the paddy derived or derivable from such harvest."

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* Is it the experience of the Government that the kychits are generally an understatement of the actuals?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Not generally, sometimes it is so.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural):* Any over-statements?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* In a few cases over-statements also.

Mr. P Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the case of the understatements, Sir, has any action been taken by the Government?

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* When it is known to be an understatement, we ask them to measure more paddy and if the returns are deliberately false, we take action under the law.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can the House have a few instances, Sir, of action being taken on deliberate understatements ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്°. പണിക്കർ: കൊയ്യുകഴിയുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് ഇത്ര പറ നെല്ല കൊട്ക്കണംഎന്ന കച്ചിട്ട വാങ്ങിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബ് എം. എം. പോൾ: വാങ്ങിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്°. പണിക്കർ: കൃഷിക്കാരല്ലാത്ത ജന്മികളിൽനിന്ന നെല്ല എടുക്കാനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥ എന്താണ° ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The same rule applies to all

120. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the officers authorised to get Kychits executed from grain producers;

(*b*) the officers authorised to receive delivery of the grains;

(*c*) the respective pay per month inclusive of allowance of each officer engaged in (*a*) and (*b*);

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) No officer has been specifically asked or authorised to take kychits. In the course of the purchasing work, kychits are being taken from the cultivators by the Grain Purchase staff under the directions of the Purchasing Officer (the Tahsildar). This is done with a view to facilitate the purchase of as much surplus paddy as possible without causing hardship to cultivators or land-holders.

(*b*) The Grain Purchase Tahsildars, the Assistant Supply Officers and their deputies, *viz.*, Revenue Inspectors, Parvathiams, Menons, Depot keepers and Fieldmen.

(*c*) Please see particulars appended *(Appendix III).*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, what exactly is the function of the Grain Purchasing Tahsildar, what actual work he has to do ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The whole purchasing work in his Taluk is done under his direction. He scrutinises the statements and fixes the paddy to be purchased from each of the cultivators. All questions of doubt are referred to him by the subordinate officers. The whole work is done under his direction and supervision.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* May I know, Sir, whether the expression Grain Purchasing Tahsildar, is self-explanatory; it means a Tahsildar purchasing grain.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Wisdom has dawned, Sir, and I thank the Hon'ble Member.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* We know your wisdom, Sir.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is the Tahsildar confined to his office, Sir, or is he to move about his Taluk ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)* He is to move about throughout his Taluk.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether any provision has been made for speedy conveyance for him, any means of locomotion for him

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The matter is being considered.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Are we to take it, Sir, that nothing has been done as yet ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* In some cases we have provided motor vehicles to the Purchasing Tahsildars, for example in the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk. We have given a motor boat in Vadakkancheri, for some time the Tahsildar was allowed to engage a car. Similarly in Chittur also, we allowed the Tahsildar to engage car. The question of providing cars to all the Tahsildars is under consideration.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that the *mundakan* crop harvest is over about a month back ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Not in all taluks.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the Talappalli Taluk, Sir, is it not over ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No, not completely over, to the best of my knowledge.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I hope the Government have caught the point of my question.

Mr. President: Order, order. The Hon'ble Member has answered your question.

121. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether any paddy taken into custody by the Tahsildars empowered by the Government to act in this behalf have been ordered to be restored to the person or persons from whom they were taken into custody by coercive steps?

(*b*) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative will Government be pleased to state the Taluks in which this has occurred and the person or persons to whom they had to return the paddy so taken, the authority who issued orders to that effect originally, and the basis for the same, if any?

Rao Shib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* (*a*) No.

(*b*) No answer is necessary.

122. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total amount of paddy purchased through the Government depot in Nedumpura village.

(*b*) the number of persons appointed as agents, etc., in the above depot.

(*c*) the total amount of money spent towards the collection of this particular depot ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies) :* 687 paras 2 Ed. and 2½ Nazhi up to the end of Thulam 1119.

1 Depot keeper, 1 Assistant 2 Fieldmen & 2 measurers.

Rs. 1,156—9—10 as per following details:

(*i*) Cost of paddy Rs. 868—5—0.

(*ii*) Establishment Rs. 270—8—0.

(*iii*) Conveyance, & Contingencies Rs. 17—12—7.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: വസ്തുത ശ്രദ്ധ അണയ്ക്കു നെല്ല് വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനു ചെലവു-ൽ ചില്ലാനം ശ്രദ്ധ ചിലവാക്കീട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ ? ഇതിലും കൂടുതൽ ചിലവുചെയ്യ ഡെപ്പോകൾ വല്ലതും വേറെയുണ്ടോ ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies) :* I want notice.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri) :* Is that expenditure supposed to be reasonable ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* In some places, the depots will be absolutely necessary. Even if the cost is proportionately higher, we have to run it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri) :* May I know, Sir, why this depot was opened there?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies) :* For convenience to store paddy.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: ഡിപ്പോകീപ്പർ, അസിസ്റ്റൻറ, ഫീൽഡ്മാൻ മുതലായി ഇതിൽ പറയുന്നിടത്തോളം ആളുകൾ ഒരു ഡിപ്പോവിൽ ആവശ്യമുണ്ടോ ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies) :* Not only for storing paddy. Paddy taken to the depot will be measured and taken delivery of by the entire staff.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* The depot is small and is run at a cost of Rs. 288—4—7. Is it reasonable expenditure?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I have answered the question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri) :* May I know, Sir, whether the particular depot is still in existence ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I am not sure. Sometimes when the purchase work in a particular area is over, it is abolished. I am not quite sure whether this depot is there at present.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government see, Sir, that it is abolished at once ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies) :* We will look into the question. If it is absolutely necessary there, it will not be possible.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Are we to take it that the Government have not yet understood the necessity of abolishing it now ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* May I know, Sir, whether it is the view of the Government that the staff of that the size mentioned here is the absolute minimum required for that depot.

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes, that is the view of the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether that was the recommendation of the local Tahsildar?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Generally the recommendation of the local Tahsildar is acted upon.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is not the depot paying rent, or is it a Government building?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* All that will come under "Conveyances and Contingencies".

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Rs. 17—12—7 includes the rent also.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What is the rent?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the revenue officers have also not been collecting paddy.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The paddy is collected under the supervision of the Tahsildar. There is no division of work. The depot keeper and the assistant, etc. work under the direction of Grain Purchasing Staff.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether these gentlemen were engaged in the purchase of paddy in this area when the Tahsildars and his deputies were functioning there?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* These people were engaged in assisting the purchasing staff. In fact, these people form part of the purchasing staff.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Was there a report from the Tahsildar, Sir, for extra help through this depot staff.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes, there was from some Tahsildars.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In this particular case?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I want notice.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Did the expenditure come all on a sudden, or was it planned?

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Are the Government sure that all the available surplus paddy has reached the hands of the Government?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* How are we to know it? We hope so.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government see, Sir, that such unnecessary expenses are not incurred hereafter?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It depends on the merits of each case.

Mr. President: I have received from Mr. P. Narayana Menon notice of a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House. I rule it out of order on the ground that the matter which he wishes to discuss is not urgent.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can we know, Sir, the subject matter of the adjournment motion?

Mr. President: I am only required to read the motion if it is in order.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I am not questioning that. I wanted only to know the subject matter of the motion.

Mr. President: It is open to you to ask the Hon'ble Member himself.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Thank you, Sir.

Condolence motion on the demise of Mr. A. L. Antony

Mr. Ephraim Ouseph *(Narahkal):* Mr. President, I rise to move that "This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the sad demise of Mr. A. L. Antony, the Member for Irinjalakkuda".

We are meeting today under the shadow of the unexpected demise of Alunkal Lonappan Antony; and I am sure it would not be the desire of the Hon'ble Members to resume the ordinary business today without paying a tribute to the memory of the worthy member for Irinjalakkuda.

Other Members must be able to speak with greater intimacy and eloquence than I can, of his career and character. They know more about his creditable record at school and college, and about his honourable career at the Bar.

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APPENDIX I

(See answer to Question No. 108)

List of the names of Mills

	Name of Mills		*Quantity of paddy issued*	
1.	Holy Family Rice Mills	..	12,000	paras
2.	Swadeshi Union Rice Mills	..	5,500	,,
3.	St. George's Rice Mills	..	2,743	,,
4.	Popular Rice Mills	..	1,620	,,
5.	Thaliath Rice Mills	..	2,700	,,
6.	K. J. Lazar Brothers' Rice Mills	..	3,700	,,
7.	St. John's Rice Mills	..	6,446	,,
8.	S. K. Narayana Ayyar's Rice Mills	..	800	,,
9.	Guruvijayam Rice Mills	..	1,600	,,
10.	Commercial Rice Mills	..	3,470	,,
11.	Trades' Union Rice Mills	..	158	,,
12.	Sree Ramachandra Rice Mills	..	1,470	,,
13.	Little Flower Rice Mills	..	320	,,
14.	P. K. S. Rice Mills	..	820	,,
15.	R. M. Mills	..	1,920	,,
16.	Mookken's Rice Mills	..	1,920	,,
			*	

*Balance handed over directly to the Assistant Supply Officers of Trichur, Mukundapuram and Talappalli.

APPENDIX II

(See answer to Question No. 111)

No. and percentage of the clerical staff on Rs. 25—40 and Rs. 40—60

Serial No.	*Name of Department*		*Grade*	*No. of posts*	*Percentage*
1	Education Department	..	25—40	58	65·2
			40—60	14	15·7
2	Land Revenue Department	..	25—40	65	61
			40—60	34	32
3	Civil Judicial Department	..	25—40	72	42
			40—60	16	9·4
4	Registration and Anchal Department	..	25—40	27	28·42
			40—60	30	31·58
5	Excise Department	..	25—40	12	40
			40—60	5	16·6
6	Magisterial Department	..	25—40	15	31·2
			40—60	8	16·6

APPENDIX III

(See answer to Question No. 120)

Cochin-Kanyannur Taluk

The Tahsildar's pay of Rs. 150 plus 25 per cent of the pay as allowance for satisfactory grain purchase work.

Revenue Inspectors:

Rs. 40—60 plus 12½ rupees consolidated allowance plus Dearness allowance of Rs. 8.

Parvathiams:

1st grade Rs. 20 plus D. A. of Rs. 8.
2nd grade Rs. 18 plus D. A. of Rs. 8.

Assistant Supply Officer, Ernakulam:

Rs. 160, plus ¼ of the pay as allowance.

Depot keeper Rs. 25 plus D. A. of Rs. 8.

Fieldmen Rs. 25 plus D. A. Rs. 8.

Deputy Tahsildar, Cranganur:

Rs. 150.

Revenue Inspector Rs. 40—60/60 plus D. A. of Rs. 8.

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Mukundapuram Taluk:

Tahsildar, substantive pay of Rs. 250 plus 25 per cent of the pay for satisfactory grain purchase work.

Revenue Inspectors on Rs. 25—40 and 40—60 plus consolidated allowance of Rs. 12—8—0 plus D. A. of Rs. 8.

Assistant Supply Officer, Irinjalakkuda Rs. 120 plus ¼ of the pay as allowance.

Depot keeper Rs. 25 plus Rs. 8 D. A.

Fieldmen Rs. 25 plus 8 D. A.

Trichur Taluk

Additional Tahsildar, present pay of Rs. 150 per mensem and an allowance of 25 per cent of the pay for the satisfactory grain purchase work.

Revenue Inspectors on Rs. 40—60 grade with consolidated T. A. of Rs. 12½ each and D. A. of Rs. 8.

Parvathiam 1st grade Rs. 20 plus Rs. 8 D. A.
2nd grade Rs. 18+Rs. 8 D. A.

Assistant Supply Officer, Trichur Rs. 135+¼ of the pay as allowance.

Depot keepr Rs. 25+Rs. 8 D. A.

Fieldman Rs. 25+Rs. 8 D. A.

Talappalli Taluk

Tahsildar on Rs. 150—250/160+25 per cent allowance for satisfactory grain purchase work.

Revenue Inspector on Rs. 40—60 & 25—40 with consolidated allowance of Rs. 12½ and D. A. of Rs. 8.

Parvathiam 1st grade Rs. 20+D. A. of Rs. 8.
2nd grade Rs. 18+D. A. of Rs. 8.

Menon 1st grade Rs. 16+D. A. of Rs. 8.
2nd grade Rs. 15+D. A. of Rs. 8.

Additional Menon Rs. 15+D. A. of Rs. 8.

Assistant Supply Officer, Vadakkancheri Rs. 100+D. A. of Rs. 8.

Depot keeper Rs. 25+D. A. of Rs. 8.

Fieldman Rs. 25+D. A. of Rs. 8.

Chittur Taluk

Tahsildar on Rs. 150—200/160+25 per cent allowance for satisfactory grain purchase work.

Assistant Supply Officer, Chittur, Rs. 100+¼ of the pay as allowance.

Revenue Inspectors Rs. 40+60+D. A. of Rs. 8 and consolidated T. A. of Rs. 12½.

Parvathiam 1st grade Rs. 20+D. A. of Rs. 8.
2nd grade Rs. 18+ do.
Chief Menon Rs. 16+ do.
Assistant Menon Rs. 15+ do.

In addition to the above, an extra monthly allowance of Rs. 10 for each Revenue Inspector and Rs. 5 for each Parvathiam has also been sanctioned if they turn out specially good work.

APPENDIX IV

MINUTES OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE

Saturday, the *29th January 1944.* / *16th Makaram 1119.*

The Committee met at 3-30 p.m. in the Diwan's room in the Secretariat.

Present.—

M. R. Ry. B. V. K. Menon Avl., B.A., B.L., Secretary to Government (Chairman)
,, P. V. Raphael, M.A (Hons.), Comptroller of Finance and Accounts.
,, C. J. Mathew Avl., B.A.,B.L., Joint Secretary to Government, Development and Separate Revenue.
,, V. K. Bhaskara Menon Avl., B.A., B.Com., LL.B.
,, P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan Avl.
,, P. P. Devassy Avl., B.A., B.L.
,, N. S. Radhakrishna Sarma Avl., M.A., B.L. Secretary

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